

# Fact Sheet

## Cardiovascular Health Program Program Description

Cardiovascular Health Program  
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### The Louisiana Cardiovascular Health Program (CHP)

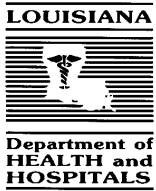
The Louisiana Cardiovascular Health Program (CHP) has received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention since July 1, 1999. The Louisiana CHP is working to Develop and Coordinate Partnerships. The Chronic Disease Control Program, the unit within the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals where this Cardiovascular Health Program is located, is developing internal and external partners (e.g., professional associations, medical schools and universities, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, the Cooperative Extension Program, the Primary Care Association, and the State Department of Education) to form an advisory panel to develop a statewide plan to reduce cardiovascular disease.

**Develop Scientific Capacity to Define the Cardiovascular Disease Problem.** Through this grant, the program will assemble a data work group to help develop a comprehensive cardiovascular surveillance system. In addition, program staff will identify and access existing sources of cardiovascular data (i.e., vital statistics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and hospital discharge data).

**Develop an Inventory of Policy and Environmental Strategies.** As part of the data review in the previous section, data on environmental and policy resources will be researched and staff will develop this information into a policy and environmental "strategy clearinghouse."

**Develop or Update State Plan.** The LAP will be organized into work groups to review data as compiled by the epidemiologist to be drawn from Vital Statistics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and the hospital discharge database. The LAP will also suggest interventions as researched by staff in the policy and environmental "strategy clearinghouse" that was discussed in the previous section. The LAP will go through a strategic planning process to develop a plan by the end of the second funding year.

**Provide Training and Technical Assistance.** Staff training needs and opportunities will be assessed by the principal investigator who will also be monitoring staff improvements. Additionally, summaries of training will be catalogued for future internal staff development.



Develop Population-based Strategies. Special initiatives, especially for priority populations, will be suggested by the LAP. For example, various interventions that may be selected are a social marketing campaign using newspapers with large African-American readerships, training rural deputies and EMS groups to encourage opportunities for flex-time exercise, or focusing on small local grocers and customer demand for more fruits and vegetables.

Develop Culturally-Competent Strategies for Priority Populations. Representatives from racial or ethnic groups will be involved in developing the CVH state plan. Using surveys, focus groups, and input from these groups, strategies to intervene with important priority populations will be developed.

*For more information, refer to the CDC site: <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/cvd/>*

